

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

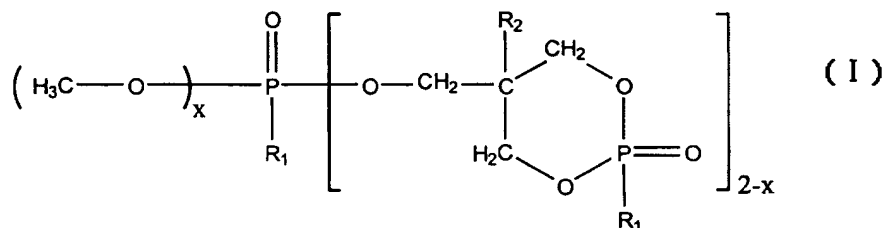
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (currently amended). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition comprising:

(A) 70 to 99.5 parts by weight of a rubber-modified polystyrene resin; and

(B) 0.5 to ~~20~~ 2 parts by weight of a ring-shaped alkyl phosphonic acid ester compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently of each other C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl and x is 0 or 1 and wherein the concentration of polyphenylene ether in the composition is 0.

Claim 2 - 4 (canceled).

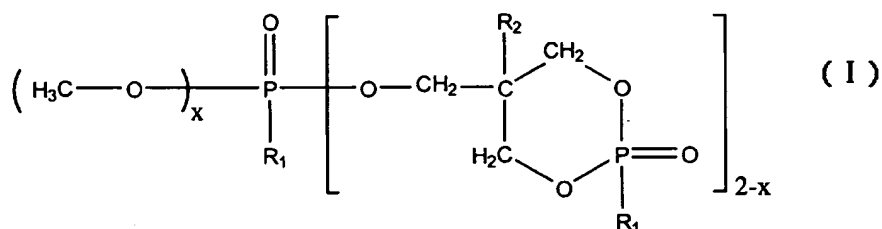
Claim 5 (original). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 1, which further comprises up to 50 parts by weight of an additive selected from the group consisting of plasticizers, heat stabilizers, anti-oxidants, light stabilizers, compatibilizers, pigment, dye and/or inorganic filler per 100 parts by weight of rubber modified styrenic resin (A).

Claim 6 and 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition comprising:

(A) 70 to 99.5 parts by weight of a base resin prepared by blending a rubber, ~~an aromatic mono-alkenyl~~ and styrene monomer ~~and/or an alkyl ester monomer~~ and polymerizing the blend, and

(B) 0.5 to ~~20~~ 2 parts by weight of a ring-shaped alkyl phosphonic acid ester compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  are independently of each other  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$  alkyl and  $x$  is 0 or 1.

Claims 9 - 13 (canceled).

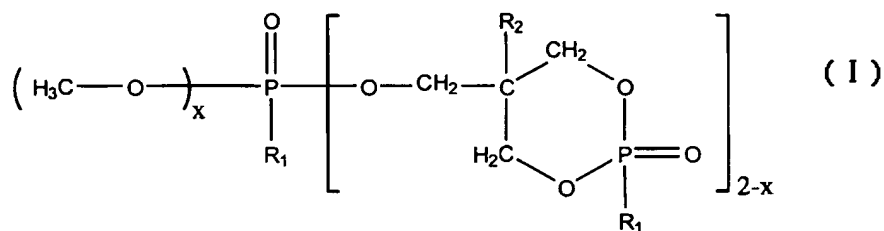
Claim 14 (previously presented). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 8 containing an amount of polyphenylene ether (C) wherein the amount of (C) is less than or equal to 10 parts by weight.

Claim 15 (previously presented). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 14 containing 5 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether (C).

Claim 16 (previously presented). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition comprising:

(A) 70 to 99.5 parts by weight of a rubber-modified polystyrene resin; and

(B) 0.5 to 20 parts by weight of a ring-shaped alkyl phosphonic acid ester compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  are independently of each other  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$  alkyl and  $x$  is 0 or 1, and

(C) polyphenylene ether wherein an amount of polyphenylene ether is present in the composition and the amount of (C) is 10 parts by weight or less.

Claim 17 (previously presented). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 16 containing 10 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether (C).

Claim 18 (currently amended). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim ~~17~~ 16 containing 5 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether (C).

Claim 19 (previously presented). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 16 containing 0.5 to 6 parts by weight of (B).

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Claim 20 (previously presented). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 17 containing 0.5 to 2 parts by weight of (B).

Claims 21- 22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (currently amended). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 1 wherein (B) is ~~0.5 to 20 parts by weight of methyl-bis (5-ethyl-2-methyl-1,3,2-dioxaphorinan-5yl) methyl methyl phosphonic acid ester P-oxide or methyl-bis(5-ethyl-2-methyl-1,3,2-dioxaphorinan-5yl) phosphonic acid ester P, P'-dioxide~~ methyl-bis (5-ethyl-2-methyl-1,3,2-dioxaphosphorinan-5yl) methyl methyl phosphonic acid ester P-oxide or methyl- bis(5-ethyl-2-methyl-1,3,2-dioxaphosphorinan-5yl) phosphonic acid ester P, P'-dioxide or a mixture thereof.

Claim 24 (previously presented). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 8 consisting essentially of (A) and (B).

Claim 25. (new) A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 14 herein the particle size of the rubber is from 0.5 to 2.0 $\mu$ m.

Claim 26. (new) A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 15 herein the particle size of the rubber is from 0.5 to 2.0 $\mu$ m.

Claim 27. (new) A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 16 herein the particle size of the rubber is from 0.5 to 2.0 $\mu$ m.

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Claim 28. (new) A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 17 herein the particle size of the rubber is from 0.5 to 2.0 $\mu$ m.

Claim 29. (new) A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 18 herein the particle size of the rubber is from 0.5 to 2.0 $\mu$ m.